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COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

Antiseptic and Anti-pruritic Solution Containing Camphor

We, MICHAEL COLLIN and DONALD WILLIAMS, both British subjects of, respectively, of 1 Mayfair Terrace, London, N.14, and 12 Trevelyan Gardens, London, N.W.10, do hereby declare the invention, for which we pray that a patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to an antiseptic and antipruritic solution for treating toxic conditions involving the skin and mucous membranes.

According to the present invention, there is provided a method of preparing an aqueous solution having antipruritic and antiseptic activity, which comprises adding an excess of pulverized camphor to distilled water with agitation, allowing the mixture to stand preferably for about 48 hours, thereafter adding sodium chloride, magnesium chloride and calcium chloride in a ratio by weight of about 18:6:1 to the camphor/water mixture at substantially the same temperature with agitation, allowing the resulting mixture to stand and thereafter filtering off undissolved camphor to obtain a solution.

The presence of the inorganic chlorides enhances the normally mild antiseptic and antipruritic properties of the camphor. However, it is necessary for the chlorides to be present in approximately the above-mentioned ratios, in order to achieve a balanced composition. Thus, the invention provides an aqueous solution having antiseptic and antipruritic activity, the solution containing camphor, sodium chloride, magnesium chloride and calcium chloride.

The solution of the invention may be prepared by adding a large excess of pulverised camphor crystals to distilled water maintained at a temperature slightly above room temperature, preferably about 64° F., agitating the mixture and allowing the same to stand, for

example, for 48 hours, to dissolve partially the camphor therein. The chlorides are then added to the water/camphor mixture at substantially the same temperature and the resultant mixture agitated and allowed to stand, for example, for 24 hours. The resulting solution is filtered to remove undissolved camphor and give a clear liquid.

Preferably, the solution is prepared by employing a large excess of camphor, e.g. about 40 grams per litre, and about 20 grams per litre of NaCl, about 15 grams per litre of $MgCl_2 \cdot 6H_2O$ and about 1.1 grams per litre of anhydrous $CaCl_2$.

The camphor solution can be used to treat skin infections by repeated application to the infected parts and can be used orally to treat dermatose, inflammatory, irritant and catarrhal conditions of the skin and mucous membrane, e.g. varicose ulcers, ophthalmitis and coryza.

The following Example illustrates the invention:—

EXAMPLE

20 grams of camphor crystals (BP) were pulverized in an agate mortar and pestle. 500 cc. of triple distilled water were placed in a clean glass vessel and the temperature thereof raised to 64° F. The pulverized camphor was added to the distilled water with stirring and the mixture allowed to stand at 64° F. for 48 hours, 10.5 grams of sodium chloride, 7.35 grams of magnesium chloride hexahydrate and 1.0 gram of calcium chloride (which had an average degree of hydration of 3.8) were then added with stirring to the vessel containing the water/camphor mixture and the mixture allowed to stand for 24 hours. The resulting liquid was filtered to give a clear solution containing 1.15 g/l of camphor and the above stated amounts of the three chlorides in a ratio, when dissolved, of about 18:6:1.

[Price

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WHAT WE CLAIM IS:—

1. A method of preparing an aqueous solution having antipruritic and antiseptic activity, which comprises added an excess of pulverized camphor to distilled water with agitation, allowing the mixture to stand, thereafter adding sodium chloride, magnesium chloride and calcium chloride in a weight ratio of about 18:6:1 to the camphor/water mixture at substantially the same temperature with agitation, allowing the resulting mixture to stand and thereafter filtering off undissolved camphor to obtain a solution.
2. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the distilled water is maintained at a temperature of about 64° F.
3. A method according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein about 40 grams of camphor, 20 grams of sodium chloride, 15 grams of magnesium chloride hexahydrate and 1.1 gram of anhydrous calcium chloride are employed per litre of water.
4. A method of preparing an aqueous solution having antiseptic and antipruritic activity, substantially as described in the foregoing specific Example.
5. An aqueous solution having antiseptic and antipruritic activity, whenever prepared by the method claimed in any preceding claim.

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